
TALK IT OVER

Seeing Your Future With Faith, Not Fear

The Transforming Power of Vision - Part 1

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Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the message notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions towards the end of the document.

Talk It Over

Paul: "I have not been disobedient to the vision God gave me." Acts 26:19

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18

Question 1 How would you define vision? Where does it come from and why is it important to have it?

As a group consider reading Numbers 13:17-14:9 together before beginning this study.

An Unclear Vision Leads To:

1. Indecision
2. Division
3. Collision

Question 2 In order to see clearly the vision God has for your future, why is it important to deal honestly with your fears? Share how fears have affected you.

Question 3 Are you looking toward the future with fear or faith? What are you expecting in your life this new year?

Looking At The Future With Fear Causes Problems

1. I overemphasize the negative in life
2. I pay too much attention to what others are doing
3. I underestimate the abilities God has given me

4. I infect others with my negativity
5. I make myself miserable

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The Israelites failed to enter the Promised Land because of fear (Numbers 13:27—14:2). If we are not careful, we could fall into the same traps they did by listening to fears that undermine our vision.

Question 4 What happens to us inside when we overemphasize negative things? How does our negativity influence others? Give an example from your experience.

Question 5 Why is it important not to underestimate our own God-given abilities or focus on what others are doing? How do these attitudes undermine the truth that God has a good future for you?

"Then all the people began weeping aloud, and they cried all night. And they grumbled and complained in a great chorus against their leaders, Moses and Aaron. 'We wish we'd died in Egypt, or even here in the wilderness!' they wailed." Numbers 14:1-2

Question 6 What signs from the passage above reveal that the people were looking at life with the eyes of fear and not faith? How can we avoid the same trap today?

"Don't say that everything people call a conspiracy is a conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear. Don't let it terrify you." Isaiah 8:12 (GW)

Question 7 What does Isaiah 8:12 say about fear and its impact?

The Antidote: Develop A Life Vision Of Faith

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"Joshua and Caleb . . . said: 'We saw the land ourselves, and it's very good. If we obey the Lord, he will surely give us that land rich with milk and honey. So don't rebel. We have no reason to be afraid of the people who live there. The Lord is on our side, and they won't stand a chance against us!'" Numbers 14:6-9 (CEV)

Question 8 What promises does Numbers 14:6-9 give us about our future? How do we grab a hold of this in the new year?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message!

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*